CLAIMS:

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1. A polymerizable silicon-containing compound having the general formula (1):

$$= \bigvee_{O} Si(CH_3)_3$$
 (1)

wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, halogen atom or monovalent organic group.

2. A polymerizable silicon-containing ester derivative 10 having an acid eliminatable substituent group according to claim 1, having the general formula (2):

$$= \sqrt{-\text{Si}(\text{CH}_3)_3}$$

$$= \sqrt{-\text{OR}^2}$$
(2)

wherein R^2 is an acid labile group.

15 3. A polymerizable silicon-containing ester derivative having a polar group according to claim 1, having the general formula (3):

$$\longrightarrow_{O} Si(CH_3)_3$$

$$\longrightarrow_{O} OR^3$$
(3)

wherein R³ is a monovalent organic group of 2 to 30 carbon 20 atoms containing an oxygen functional group such as hydroxyl, carbonyl, ether bond or ester bond. 4. A polymerizable silicon-containing ester derivative having a silicon-containing group according to claim 1, having the general formula (4):

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\text{Si(CH}_3)_3}{\text{OR}^4}}$$
 (4)

- wherein R⁴ is a monovalent organic group of 3 to 30 carbon atoms containing at least one silicon atom.
- A method for preparing a polymerizable silicon-containing compound having the general formula (B),
 comprising the steps of reacting an oxalate with a trimethylsilylmethyl-metal compound to form a β-hydroxysilyl compound having the general formula (A) and subjecting the β-hydroxysilyl compound to Peterson elimination reaction,

$$(H_3C)_3Si \longrightarrow_{OR} OR$$

$$-Si(CH_3)_3$$

$$-Si(CH_3)_3$$

$$-OR$$

$$O$$

$$(B)$$

wherein R stands for R¹, R², R³ or R⁴, R¹ is a hydrogen atom, halogen atom or monovalent organic group, R² is an acid labile group, R³ is a monovalent organic group of 2 to 30 carbon atoms containing an oxygen functional group, and R⁴ is a monovalent organic group of 3 to 30 carbon atoms containing at least one silicon atom.

6. A polymer comprising recurring units of the general formula (1a), (2a), (3a) or (4a) and having a weight average molecular weight of 2,000 to 100,000,

$$\begin{array}{c}
H_2 \\
C \\
C \\
O
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
Si(CH_3)_3 \\
O\\
OR^1$$
(1a)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & \text{Si(CH}_3)_3 \\
 & \text{CC} \\
 & \text{OR}^3
\end{array} (3a)$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
H_2 & Si(CH_3)_3 \\
+ & C & OR^4
\end{array}$$
(4a)

wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, halogen atom or monovalent organic group, R^2 is an acid labile group, R^3 is a monovalent organic group of 2 to 30 carbon atoms containing an oxygen functional group, and R^4 is a monovalent organic group of 3 to 30 carbon atoms containing at least one silicon atom.